

DEATH OF A SALESMAN

Table of Chronology Act One

Page	Events/ Dialogue	Past	Present	Mood/ Atmosphere	Other Comments
7-9	Willy comes home and describes journey			exhaustion, confusion	
10-11	Willy and Linda discuss Biff			exasperation	
12	Willy feels boxed in			claustrophobia	
12-13	Willy reminisces			nostalgia, happiness	
14-18	Happy and Biff discuss women, jobs			enthusiasm, dreams	
19-20	and Bill Oliver			hope	
20	Willy talks to himself			confusion	
20	Happy and Biff fall asleep			anxiety	
21	Willy talks to Biff and Happy about girls			paternal pride, warmth	
22-23	Biff and the stolen football			approval, delight	
23	Willy brags about his success			boastfulness	
24	They discuss the big game			complete happiness	
25	Bernard worries about the examinations			unwelcome hint of reality	
27-28	Willy and Linda discuss money			exasperation, anger	
29-30	Willy and the woman			happiness, sensuality	Note how two different past times merge together
30-31	Willy and Linda			guilt	
31	Willy tells Bernard to give Biff the answers			anger	
32	Willy and Happy discuss Ben			frustrated anger	
33-34	Charley and Willy play cards...			resentment	
34-36	...meanwhile Ben enters and offers Willy a job in Alaska. Charley leaves			Ben: Urgency Willy: admiration, regret Charley: bewilderment	Note how past and present blend together

Page	Events/ Dialogue	Past	Present	Mood/ Atmosphere	Other Comments
36-38	Linda enters, Willy and Ben talk about their father			sentimentality, nostalgia	
37	Ben meets the boys			admiration, cheating	don't fight fair... cheat
39-40	Charley warns Willy about the boys' stealing			unwelcome hint of reality, friendly advice	
41	Linda 'rescues' Willy			confusion, desperation	
41-42	Linda and Biff discuss Willy			anger, frustration	
44-45	Linda defends Willy			love, understanding	
46	Linda tells Biff about the suicide attempt			honesty, fear,	
47-48	Willy and Biff argue			anger	
49-51	Willy, Biff and Happy share the 'Loman Brothers' dream. Biff plans to see Bill Oliver			optimism, hope	
53	Willy advises Biff how to behave			happiness	
54	Willy reminisces about the football game			lyrical, nostalgia	
54	Biff finds the rubber tube			horror, despair	

Act Two

55	Willy and Linda have coffee			real optimism	
56	Willy dreams of the boys' future. He resolves to ask Howard for a job				
56-57	Willy and Linda discuss money				
58-59	Linda speaks to Biff				
59	Willy arrives in Howard's office				
62	Willy asks for a new job				
63	Willy describes the death of Dave Singleman			nostalgia, regret, sorrow, envy	
64	Willy ends up shouting			anger	
64	Willy on his own			sad moment of self-knowledge	
65-66	Howard sacks Willy			disbelief, despair	
66	Ben enters and offers Willy a job				
67	Linda tells Ben Willy is fine where he is				

67-68	Willy boasts of Biff to Ben				
68-69	Preparation for the Ebbets field game			total pride and pleasure	
70	Charley teases Willy about the game			deep anger and resentment	
71				friendliness	
72-73				incomprehension	
74				anger, vulnerability	
75-76				sorrow, pathos	
76-77				anger, hurt pride	
78-80				celebration, flirtation	Calm before the storm?
81				ominous	
82-83	Biff tells Happy about the interview with Bill Oliver			painful honesty (Biff) disbelief (Happy)	
83-85	Willy enters and talks with the boys			exasperating failure to communicate	
86	Biff and Willy argue			deep anger and frustration	
86-87	Bernard brings news to Linda of Biff 'flunking'			panic	
87	Back in restaurant, Willy blames Biff			anger	
87-89	The operator's voice and the woman's voice disturb Willy. He strikes Biff			confusion, guilt, pain, anger, violence	Past and present merge in a nightmare for Willy
90-91	Willy leaves and Biff shows Happy the hose			despair	
91-93	Willy with the woman, then Biff turns up			disbelief, pain, confusion	
94-95	Willy makes excuses			pathos	
96	Willy returns to the restaurant, then leaves to buy seeds			fragile, vulnerability, a sense of loss	
97-98	Linda accuses Biff and Happy of behaving like animals			anger, frustration	
99-100	Willy in garden planting seeds. Talks with Ben about suicide.			poignancy	
101	Willy discusses the boys			lyrical sadness	
103	Biff takes his leave			guilt, confusion, anger	
103-104					

105-106					
106-107					
108					
108					
108-109					

The Requiem

110-112	Graveside			incomprehension, proud defence, loyalty, pain	